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7/6/02**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner/GAU: Thomas J. Druan, Jr., of AU 3724

Serial Number: 09/708,658

Title: BLADE WITH MICROSCOPIC ...

Applicant: Nick Bromer

Filed: November 9, 2000

This paper submitted: July 1, 2002

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Paragraph starting at page 8, line 12:

To optimize the sharpness of the blade, the cutting layer should be smooth (locally flat) on a distance scale less than or generally equal to its thickness. If the corrugations in the cutting layer are much deeper than the cutting layer is thick, then the cutting layer will not present a thin layer that lies in the direction of cutting. The edge cannot be the intersection of two planes, and therefore cannot be sharp.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) A blade, comprising:

a substrate including a specular surface, whereby the surface is smooth on the order of a light wavelength; and

a thin, hard plate deposited on the specular surface, whereby the hard plate is microscopically flat, on the order of a light wavelength;

wherein the substrate is beveled toward a cutting edge including the hard plate, whereby the cutting edge is straight, on the order of a light wavelength, in a cutting direction.

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274  
7. (Amended) A blade comprising, on at least one side of the blade, a thin, hard plate including both a thickness and a smoothness on the order of a light wavelength.